

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 00598 141132Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 MCT-01 CA-01 EB-08

FAA-00 DOTE-00 /106 W

-----099841 141917Z /46

R 141107Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6437

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0598

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, BQG, AKB

SUBJECT: SOVIET DEMARCHE OF MARCH 6 TO FRENCH POLAD ON ILLEGAL
EXTENSION OF FRG LAWS TO BERLIN

REF: USBERLIN 0551

SUMMARY. IN SPITE OF HIS GRAB BAG INCLUSION OF NUMEROUS
DIFFERENT ITEMS, WE CONSIDER THAT SOVIET MINISTER KHOTULEV'S
DEMARCHE OF MARCH 6 IS NOT PARTICULARLY WEIGHTY IN SUBSTANCE.
EACH SEPARATE COMPLAINT ABOUT EXTENSION OF LAWS OR TREATIES
IS PRESENTED RATHER SUPERFICIALLY, AND THERE SEEM TO BE NO
DEPARTURES FROM SIMILAR PROTESTS IN THE PAST. THE FRENCH
POLAD CONSIDERS THE PRESENTATION AS ROUTINE. END SUMMARY.

1. OUR FIRST REACTION UPON LEARNING OF THE LONGISH CONTENT
OF KHOTULEV'S DEMARCHE OF MARCH 6 WAS THAT THE GERMANS WOULD
REGARD IT AS A SERIOUS INTENSIFICATION OF THE SOVIET CAMPAIGN
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PAGE 02 USBERL 00598 141132Z

AGAINST FRG PRESENCE IN BERLIN.

2. WE SUBSEQUENTLY DISCUSSED THE PRESENTATION WITH
FRENCH (CHAIRMAN) POLAD PERRIN, AND ASKED HIM WHETHER HE
CONSIDERED THAT AN ESCALATION WAS INVOLVED. PERRIN RE-
PLIED IN THE NEGATIVE, AND CHARACTERIZED THE MEETING AS
SHORT AND QUITE ROUTINE. HE SAID THAT THE ONLY OFFICIAL

DOCUMENT WAS THE STATEMENT COMPLAINING ABOUT
FRG EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF FIVE LAWS OR AGREEMENTS. HE
PERSONALLY REGARDED THIS AS A ROUTINE PROJECT IN WHICH
THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD RESEARCHED OUT SEVERAL
EXAMPLES, SOME OF WHICH WERE TRIVIAL, "JUST TO ADD ANOTHER
DOCUMENT" TO FUTURE EDITIONS OF THEIR "BLUE BOOK DOCUMENTARY."

3. THE COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE GEISEL VISIT AND THE OTHER
TWO ACTIVITIES WERE BRIEF AND ORAL, AND PERRIN SPECULATES
THEY WERE SPONTANEOUSLY ADDED TO THE AGENDA BY DECISION OF
THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

4. WE AGREE WITH PERRIN THAT THE DEMARCHE IS LESS ALARMING
THAN IT SEEMED AT FIRST, CONTAINING AS IT DID SO MANY
SEPARATE SUBJECTS. ALTHOUGH THE STATEMENT IS MADE LONG BY
COVERING FIVE MATTERS, IT LOSES SPECIFIC GRAVITY BY SKIMPING
THE COMMENT ON EACH ITEM. ON FURTHER EXAMINATION WE ARE OF THE
OPINION THAT THE DEMARCHE WAS NOT AN ATTACK ON THE MANTELGESETZ
PROCEDURE AS SUCH (REFTEL), BUT RATHER A CRITICISM OF THE WAY
THE ALLIES ADMINISTER THE PROCEDURE. THE COMPLAINTS FALL
INTO THE SAME PATTERN AS OTHER PROTESTS OF THE LAST FIVE
YEARS IN THIS FIELD (E.G., AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE SELECTIONS
IN THE SOVIET/GDR DOCUMENTARY ON THE QA).

5. THE LAST SUBJECT (NUMBER FIVE IN KHOTULEV'S DEMARCHE)
IS THE EXTENSION OF ANTI-TERRORIST MEASURES ENACTED
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PAGE 03 USBERL 00598 141132Z

BY THE BUNDESTAG IN FEBRUARY. SO FAR WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE
TO IDENTIFY THE REPORTED LAW ON THE CNESUS (ITEM NUMBER ONE).
GEORGE

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